

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 16 have been amended. Claims 2-15 and 18 and 19 have been canceled. Claim 17 is unchanged.

Objection to Specification

Applicants have corrected the deficiency with respect to nucleotide listing requirement to include the sequence shown in page 11, line 5. Both a CRF and a paper copy is attached herewith. Applicants hereby request the entry of this sequence listing and represent that the paper copy and the CRF are the same and that no new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

The Examiner indicates that claims 2 (8) and 18 (19) are drawn to non-elected inventions, i.e., SEQ ID NOs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Applicants have canceled these claims and therefore this rejection is rendered moot.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC 102

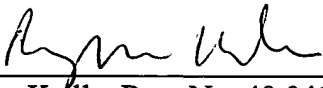
The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 16 and 17 as being anticipated by Ishikawa et al. (WO 01/81371 A1 2001), and by Ferrone (WO 00/38515, 2000). However, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 8, 18 and 19 are free of prior art. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 16 to include the limitation of claims 2 and 18 respectively as they relate to SEQ ID NO:6. It is believed that with these amendments, claims 1, 16 and 17 are now allowable and therefore the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow these claims:

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that based on the amendments presented herein, claims 1, 16 and 17 are now in a condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to allow these claims.

This response is being within three months of date of the Office Communication and therefore it is believed that no fee is due. If that is incorrect, any fee due may be charged to Deposit Account no. 08-2442.

Respectfully submitted,

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